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REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 2 and 8. Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims as amended.

In addition, Applicant has previously called the Examiner and set up a telephonic interview. When Applicant called, the Examiner did not answer and Applicant left a voice message. The Examiner did not return that voice message and Applicant has made several other calls to the Examiner which were also unanswered and the undersigned left a message which was not returned. Still further, the undersigned sent a facsimile to the Examiner and that facsimile was returned as being undeliverable. Based on the above and the undersigned's previously good relations with this Examiner, the undersigned can only assume that there is some failure in the U.S. Patent Office phone system which is preventing the Examiner from receiving Applicant's calls, voice messages and faxes. Applicant only places this in the Remarks section for the information of the Examiner and does not mean this as a criticism of the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected 2-8 and 10-15 under 35 USC 103 as being obvious over Sano in view of Hashimoto et al. and further in view of Gerard et al. and Masahide et al., stating that Sano teaches variously the heart cycle time phase obtainance of displacement information data in the form of tissue velocity or acceleration of displacement echo data over two dimensions but also including a 3D embodiment as discussed at col. 43 and which includes radial straight-line determinations of these parameters using either a machine-determined center of gravity reference identifier within the ventricle or an operator-derived centerpoint reference, with absolute display colorizations of these parameters, but does not teach 3D renderings; Hashimoto et al. at col. 11, lines 35-50 or col. 12 teach producing full 3D including volume rendering in realtime; while Sano *inter alia* was Doppler motion-based and concerned with velocity as opposed to displacement measurement, the Examiner believes that Gerard et al. evidences that the artisan would entertain referenced displacement of a non-doppler-derived origin as a basis for movement deformation imaging in the ultrasound three-dimensional cardiac kinetic study context, and Masahide et al. further evidences that it would have been obvious to organize displacement information in accordance with time phases when performing kinetic studies.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Sano and particularly col. 43 and respectfully submits that the three embodiments 24-26 discussed therein are all based upon velocity data and embodiment 24 merely suggests that the velocity data processing unit 226 can reform the characteristic components in realtime into data capable of three-dimensional wire frame display as shown in Fig. 92. Applicant respectfully submits that the three-dimensional wire frame display of Fig. 92 is not the three-dimensional figure which is displayed by Applicant's invention. Still further, Applicant respectfully submits that Sano does not disclose that the displacement information creator unit calculates the amount of displacement for each site by calculating a distance between each site on the surface of the target tissue and the reference point based on the three-dimensional echo data for each of the time phases and calculates a change in the distance between time phases of each site on the surface of the target tissue as is required by Applicant's invention and particularly claimed by claims 2 and 8 and also claim 10.

Still further, Applicant has carefully reviewed Hashimoto et al. and respectfully submits that Hashimoto et al. also discloses a 3D wire frame model as is shown in Fig. 17 and this image is obtained from B-mode image based signals and CFM image based signals for a local region subjected to a 3D scan. Again, Applicant respectfully submits that in Hashimoto et al. does not teach the display of Applicant's invention. Also, Applicant respectfully submits that Hashimoto et al. does not show or disclose or suggest that the displacement information creator unit calculates an amount of displacement for each site by calculating the distance between each site of the surfaces of the target tissue and the reference point on the three-dimensional echo data for each of the time phases and the change in the distance between the time phases of each site on the surface of the target tissue as is particularly claimed by Applicant's claims 2 and 8 and also claim 10.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Gerard et al. and respectfully submits that while Gerard et al. teaches 3D echocardiography, it teaches a process based upon deformable surfaces represented by a mesh which is substantially the same as the wire frame display of Sano and Hashimoto et al. and also does it modeling based upon four dimensional statistics. As a result, Applicant respectfully submits that Gerard et al. does not show or suggest a displacement information unit such as that claimed by Applicant's claims 2 and 8 and also claim 10.

Applicant has carefully reviewed Masahide et al. and respectfully submits that while Masahide et al. may disclose the calculation of three-dimensional contours, such three-

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dimensional contours are calculated based upon respective cross-sections extracted with the multiple time phases. Again, Applicant respectfully submits that Masahide et al. does not teach a displacement information creator unit as claimed by Applicant's claims 2 and 8 and also claim 10.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination suggested by the Examiner is not Applicant's invention and claims 2-8 and 10-15 are not obvious over Sano in view of Hashimoto et al. and further in view of Gerard et al. and Masahide et al.

Applicant further respectfully and retroactively requests a two month extension of time so as to respond to the Office Action. Please charge Deposit Account No. 11-1445 in the sum of \$450 as the fee.

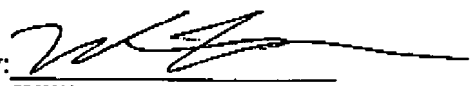
In view of the above, therefore, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment be entered, favorably considered and the case passed to issue.

Please charge any additional costs incurred by or in order to implement this Amendment or required by any requests for extensions of time to KODA & ANDROLIA DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 11-1445.

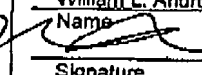
Respectfully submitted,

KODA & ANDROLIA

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office Fax No. (571) 273-8300 on <u>June 11, 2007</u> .	
<u>William L. Androlia</u> Name	
 Signature	<u>6/11/2007</u> Date